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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Serial No. : 09/824,114  
Filed : April 2, 2001  
For : BROWNFIELDS INVESTING  
Examiner : Pedro R. KANOF  
Art Unit : 3628

Commissioner for Patents  
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20 Feb 2004  
Date

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Kindly amend the above-identified application before examination, as set forth  
below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of  
this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.